

05/30/2015 Forest Plan Revision Workshop

Flip Chart Notes

Action Item:

1. Provide documentation showing how proposed action changes as it moves forward to a DEIS alternative. Show changes to new timber suitability map.
2. Participants should consider using University of Montana research paper Nie & Schembra 2014 *The Important Role of Standards in National Forest Planning, Law, and Management* (Environmental Law Reporter 44, 2014) as a reference for forest plan revision.
3. Provide increased awareness for how the public can respond to scoping.
 - a. How can we provide feedback to assist people to be able to make better, more substantial comments? One source that could help is the document "How to comment on the proposed action" (available on the forest plan revision website at <http://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/nezperceclearwater/landmanagement/planning/?cid=stelprdb5447338>).

General Discussion and Questions

- When will standards be used?
 - Some participants have concerns with exceeding absolute thresholds
 - For example, what would water quality, fisheries and aquatic thresholds be?
- Challenge: How are DFCs/STDs (desired future conditions/standards) constructed to provide "on the ground flexibility" while providing protection?
 - Active Management = Protection
 - (Often a "hands off" approach does not provide the necessary protection)
- Concern: Monitoring plan needs to address accountability
- How will people use the Forest into the future?
 - Look at evolution of use
 - Discuss units for effects analysis (i.e. For social and economic considerations)
- Fire: pre and post: how can forest plan direction infer this needed change
 - Discussion: Fire management plans are based on national annual plans; forest plan needs to be flexible enough to incorporate annual direction
 - Smoke management: how is this addressed in the plan to better use fire to meet DFCs?
 - How/if plan addresses "no burn" windows for cooperators; our 'long term' burning to meet resource objectives can affect their ability to burn
 - Overall fuel reduction will help with this issue

Vegetative DFC:

- Be specific about how fire will be used; consider economics of harvest
- Old growth: consider the need to "grow it"; need healthy young stands; it is not a "static" condition; it's a process; may not be a "hands off" approach; it's a process
- Is this just "nature taking its course", or more purposeful?

05/30/2015 Forest Plan Revision Workshop

- DFCs: should be about conditions and processes
- Stochastic events: forest level is too fine scale to measure, but they need to be considered

Questions to Address: Economics

- How do we capture economic contributions of local, small businesses; what are the Forest contributions from those businesses?
- How do we capture economic contributions of non-local communities, i.e. people who come to the forest from elsewhere?
- How do we capture contributions of native fisheries?
- We need better understanding of economic inputs/outputs

Recommended Wilderness/ROS (recreational opportunity spectrum) integration discussion

- Orange Title (recommended wilderness) map: clarify 1987 areas vs management direction. "R" = primitive. Alternatives could consider some motorized use in these areas
- John's Creek: should be IRR (inventoried roadless rule lands) or protected similarly to East Meadow
 - IRR versus undeveloped unroaded management should be prescribed in some way
- Please clarify ICL comment listed in Scoping summary document: ICL **did not** say all IRR should be recommended for wilderness, but that all IRR areas should be evaluated for recommendation
- Need to balance Multiple Use and Ecosystem Services between alternatives

Resource Integration/Alternative Discussion

- If there is no conflict; do we need to set priorities?
- Need to really identify where conflicts occur that restrict integration
- Concerns with Rolling Alternative
 - Transparency
 - Redundancy

Roundtable Discussion Notes (after the main session)

- When will mountain goat habitat map be produced?
 - IDFG will map mountain goat range on Forest; they will use historic and current surveys; June/July (date is flexible)
- Idaho Roadless Rule
 - If an area is recommended for wilderness how/what process do we use to evaluate a need to change IRR themes?
 - How will we consider theme changes?
 - Most considerations seem to be towards a more restrictive theme

05/30/2015 Forest Plan Revision Workshop

- Need to consider how to change themes to less restrictive (i.e. from Backcountry to General Forest Area)
 - Consider using FP to set up this scenario for success with the commission
- Monitoring
 - How will forward progress to meet DFCs be monitored?
 - How will monitoring demonstrate if we are “sliding backwards” instead of moving towards DFCs? Discussion: will need to focus on long term trend
- Big Game
 - Research Station: Wisdom’s work (good science to incorporate)
 - Monitoring:
 - Need coordinated monitoring with IDFG; monitor in harmony; habitat by FS; populations by IDFG; how can this concept be included in FP monitoring plan?
 - DFC: working together to support mutual goals: IDFG/FS
 - Consider specifics regarding predator control
- Integration of Resources is an important “layer”/concept
 - Could soils layer be used as an anchor/starting point for integrating resources?